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Dr. Frederick R. Dowsett, Unit Leader
Monitoring and Enforcement
Hazardous Materials and Waste Management Division
Colorado Department of Health
4210 East 11th Avenue
Denver, Colorado 80220

Dear Dr. Dowsett:

The Agreement in Principle between the U.S. Department of Energy and the State of Colorado dated June 28, 1989, requires the Solar Evaporation Ponds be dried and the remaining sludge be removed by October 1991. However, the current evaporation rate in those ponds will not dry the ponds by that date.

In order to meet the October 1991 date for cleanup of the solar ponds, various techniques are being considered to enhance evaporation in the solar ponds. One technique is the use of a blue, non-toxic, non-RCRA regulated, non-bioaccumulative dye to the water. That will increase the amount of heat absorbed by the ponds, thus increasing the evaporation rate in the ponds.

In a telephone conversation on June 29, 1990, you stated that this technique would not require submittal of a Part A Permit Application. You further stated that use of the dye would require a letter to the Colorado Department of Health (CDH) requesting a change to interim status, a Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS), and an explanation of how the dye will improve the evaporation rate of the ponds. The MSDS for the blue dye and the evaporation enhancement explanation are included as enclosures to this request.

This letter provides the information you requested on June 29, 1990, and requests that CDH approve the change to interim status for use of the blue dye to enhance evaporation in the solar ponds. This request is being made in accordance with the requirements of the Colorado Hazardous Waste Regulations, 6 CCR 1007-3, Section 100.20.

Please feel free to contact me or have your staff contact Jim Kiefer of my staff at 966-4561 if you have any questions regarding this request.

Enclosures:
As Stated

cc:
J.M. Kersh, EG&G Rocky Flats, Inc.
A.L. Schubert, EG&G Rocky Flats, Inc.

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